

71

3

|   |               |  |  |                      |                       |           |
|---|---------------|--|--|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY<br><b>DOCUMENT RECEIPT</b>  |               | <b>NOTICE TO RECIPIENT</b><br>Sign and Return as Shown on Reverse Side |  | COURIER REC NO. .... |                       | DATE SENT |
| SENDER OF DOCUMENT(S)<br>Director of Central Intelligence   |               |  | ROOM   | BLDG.                | DATE DOCUMENT(S) SENT |           |
| <b>DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) SENT</b>  |               |  |  |                      |                       |           |
| CIA NO.   | DOCUMENT DATE | COPIES   | DOCUMENT TITLE   | ATTACHMENTS          |                       | CLASS     |
|   |               | Orig &<br>1 cc   | SUBJECT: UEDITNM                                       | One                  |                       | SECRET    |
| <b>RECIPIENT</b>  |               |  |  |                      |                       |           |
| ADDRESS OF RECIPIENT<br>Mr. John D. Ehrlichman<br>Special Assistant to the President<br>for Domestic Affairs<br>The White House |               |  | SIGNATURE (ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF ABOVE DOCUMENT(S)) |                      |                       |           |
|   |               |  | OFFICE   |                      | DATE OF RECEIPT       |           |

FORM 12-61 615

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

(33)

COPY FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES - NIXON PROJECT

[NLN 89-4/6:1]

SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

20 August 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. John D. Ehrlichman  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Domestic Affairs

SUBJECT : Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media

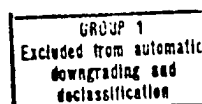
I attach a summary of the USIB Security Committee volume,  
"Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media" as requested by  
Mr. David Young last week.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dick".

Richard Helms  
Director

Attachment

SECRET



[NLN 89-4/6:2]

COPY FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES - NIXON PROJECT

ATTACHMENT

[NLN 89-4/6:3]

SECRET

COPY FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES - NIXON PROJECT

SUBJECT: Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media

1. The problem of unauthorized disclosures in the news media has been a source of serious concern to the intelligence community for the past decade and to the Director of Central Intelligence, who is charged with the responsibility for the protection of intelligence sources and methods under the authority of the National Security Act of 1947.
2. Recently, there has been a sharp increase in the number of unauthorized disclosures, especially in the fields of compartmented intelligence. During this period the greatest number of leaks originated with reporters whose articles appeared in The Washington Post and The New York Times.
3. As a result, in 1970 the matter of unauthorized disclosures in the news media was the subject of a thorough re-examination by the Security Committee of the United States Intelligence Board. The Security Committee subsequently originated a mechanism whereby immediate investigation of unauthorized disclosures was accomplished only to find, as in the past, that the documents involved had been so widely disseminated that investigation and interviews with the recipients of the classified source material remained a fruitless task. Further, successful investigation of the sources of such disclosures was again severely circumscribed by the implications involved in possible charges that the United States Government was investigating the news media.

SECRET

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

[NIN 89-4/6:4]

SECRET

4. As in the past, it was the unanimous conviction of the Chairman and the Members of the Security Committee that effective corrective action in the area of unauthorized disclosures could be implemented by:

a. the Security Committee being authorized to conduct complete investigations which would lead to the identity of a person or persons responsible for an unauthorized disclosure;

b. taking appropriate disciplinary action in a just, clear, and definite manner which would demonstrate the extreme seriousness with which unauthorized disclosures are viewed, and most importantly,

c. bringing the prestige and the power of the Office of the President to bear on the problem.

5. On the 21st of December 1970 President Nixon outlined in a memorandum sent to the Director and other addressees, his concern over the increasing proliferation of sensitive intelligence data through the news media.

6. The President, noting the statutory responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence for the protection of intelligence sources and methods, charged him with providing guidance in this field, especially through the machinery of the intelligence community. Subsequently, the DCI, as a result of discussions held in executive session on 22 April 1971 within the framework of the United States Intelligence Board, immediately promulgated agreed upon "Guidance Governing Disclosures of Classified Intelligence," which had also received the concurrence of all addressees of the President's memorandum of 21 December 1970.

7. In a companion report to the President, Mr. Helms noted that he had asked the United States Board Principals to make particular efforts to assure that in the case of releases of sensitive and specially-compartmented intelligence the

-2-

SECRET

[NLN 89-4/6:5]

SECRET

appropriate member of the community be consulted as to potential damage, and that he was requesting periodic reports from them on measures taken within their respective agencies and departments to implement these guidelines.

8. On the 4th of June 1971 the Director of Central Intelligence set forth his thoughts in a memorandum to multiple addressees of the intelligence community wherein he expressed his growing concern with the increasing resort to public disclosure of classified information despite the President's injunction of 21 December 1970 urging caution in the public release of classified data. Mr. Helms stated that the frequency of such disclosures had reached alarming levels and furnished the addressees with a compendium of twenty-two (22) disclosures which had appeared in the press in little over a four-month period--18 January through 27 May 1971. Mr. Helms stressed that the flood of public disclosures of classified information gives the USSR and other foreign powers keen insights into the capabilities and limitations of our intelligence system and tends to undermine the attitude toward security at all levels of Government. He again requested the cooperation of the intelligence community in eliminating any further public disclosures which can only damage the U. S. intelligence posture.

-3-

SECRET

[NLM 89-4/6:6]

SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

10 AUG 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. John D. Ehrlichman  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Domestic Affairs

SUBJECT : Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media

I attach a summary of the USIB Security Committee volume,  
"Unauthorized Disclosures in the News Media" as requested by  
Mr. David Young last week.

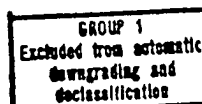
Richard Helms

Richard Helms  
Director

Attachment

*Dupl. of NLN 89-4/6:2*

SECRET



*[NLN 89-4/6:7]*